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EL319764604

EV444355604

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

2 Priority Serial No.....08/623,610
3 Priority Filing Date.....3/29/96
4 Inventorship.....Shoff et al.
5 Priority Group Art Unit.....2711
6 Priority Examiner.....John W, Miller
7 Applicant.....Microsoft Corporation
8 Attorney's Docket No.MS1-089USC1
9 Title: Interactive Entertainment System For Presenting Supplemental Interactive
10 Content Together With Continuous Video Programs
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JUL 26 2004

DECLARATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.131

Technology Center 2600

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

I am the inventor of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled "Interactive Entertainment System for Presenting Supplemental Interactive Content Together with Continuous Video Programs", as identified above.

I conceived of the invention in the United States prior to the March 8, 1996 priority date of U.S. Patent No. 5,778,181 to Hidary et al. (hereinafter, "Hidary patent"). Attached to this declaration are excerpts from a patent disclosure summary prepared by our attorney Lewis C. Lee following a disclosure meeting. The summary briefly describes aspects of the invention. The disclosure meeting was held and the disclosure summary was drafted prior to the priority date of the Hidary patent. Diligent effort was made between conception of the invention, as evidenced by this disclosure summary, and the filing of a patent application on March 29, 1996.

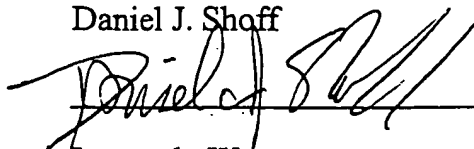
All statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of

1 Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statement may
2 jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued therefrom.

3 * * * * *

4 Full name of inventor: Daniel J. Shoff

5 Inventor's Signature



Date: 4/16/99

6 Residence:

Issaquah, WA

7 Citizenship:

USA

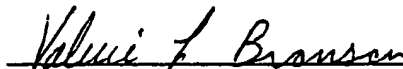
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10 * * * * *

11 Full name of inventor: Valerie L. Bronson

12 Inventor's Signature



Date: 6/22/99

13 Residence:

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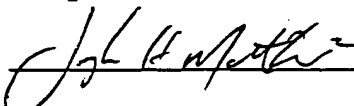
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17 * * * * *

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19 Full name of inventor: Joseph H. Matthews, III

20 Inventor's Signature



Date: 4/15/99

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22 Citizenship:

USA

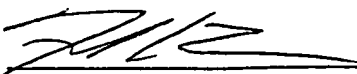
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Full name of inventor:

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Inventor's Signature



Date:

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Residence:

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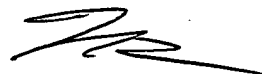
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Lewis Lee

From: Lewis Lee

Sent: Thursday, February 22, 1996 5:34 PM

To: Dan Hayes

Subject: Patent Summary: "Enhanced Broadcasts" MS# 39279 / MS1-089US

Inventorship: Valerie Bronson, Dan Shoff, Joe Matthews, Frank Lawler

Invention Summary: This invention concerns a technique for placing graphics and other web stuff over or around a continuous video stream to enhance a broadcast. The system separates the program stream from the Web content so that they are not inseparably intertwined (as are the prior art). This allows the developer to design the overlay or enhancements in relation to the video picture however they wish. For instance, this approach enables the developer to move the web content around on the screen and to reposition or resize the video picture.

The viewer can activate the enhanced broadcast manually, by being told in the TV Guide that a particular program is interactive.

An alternative approach is to have the operating system intelligently determine whether the program is interactive. This is accomplished by placing a web extension into a separate field of the EPG. When the viewer tunes to a particular channel, the navigator checks the EPG to see this field contains an extension, indicating that the program is interactive. If so, the web browser can be launched automatically, or a visual cue (akin to the stereo icon) can be depicted on the TV to inform the viewer that the program is interactive.